- Educational Services;
- Environmental Services;
- Health Related and Social Services;
- Recreational, Cultural and Sporting Services;
- Other Business Generating Services;

The programme aims to increase interaction between the business entities of the two regions by identifying areas of bilateral trade and investment. The exports to the Region are envisaged to be enhanced through combined efforts of Government of India, India Trade Promotion Organisation, Export Promotion Councils, Apex Chambers of Commerce & Industry, Indian Missions and Institutions such as EXIM Bank, Export Credit Guarantee Corporation (ECGC) etc.

The programme is in the initial stages of its implementation. Only 3 months have passed since the launch of the programme & it is a very short span of time to identify outcomes of the launch of the programme in terms of identification of bilateral interests and investments, growth in export etc.

Details of the programme are available on Department's website, *www.commerce.nic.* in under the head Trade Promotion Programme'.

Export of limestone from Rajasthan

2. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that limestone export from Rajasthan has been on a gradual decrease due to the decision by Government to reduce import duty and hike rail and ocean freight charges;

(b) if so, the details of the limestone export during the past five years, year-wise; and

(c) the steps Government are willing to take to revive limestone exports in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) Sir, the Central Government maintains export data for the country as a whole and not State-wise. The details of country's export of limestone during the past five years are as follows:

(value in Rs. Crores)

1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03 (April-Feb.)
7.70	24.35	10.06	11.90	11.37

[Source: DGCI&S]

(c) The Department of Commerce provides Market Development Assistance (MDA) for all products including limestone for participation in overseas trade fairs/exhibition and overseas publicity.

Restriction on Import of Dolomite as building Stone

3. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that restrictions on import of dolomite as building stone have been removed by Gazette Notification dated June 27, 2001 issued by Director General of foreign trade;

(b) if so, whether prescribed use of dolomite was for the chemical industry and steel plants but now it has been passed as building material which as clearly been established that it would be used as marble; and

(c) if so, whether Government intends to reconsider the decision taken by Director General of Foreign Trade for allowing import of dolomite when Rajasthan could Fulfill domestic requirement of dolomite as building material?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) to (c) India has been following a consistent policy for gradual removal of restrictions